"If you want to change the world... be your very best in the darkest moments" -- Admiral William H. McRaven

The eyes of the world are upon us tonight. Leadership is like the job of a swim-instructor trying to teach toddlers how to swim. It's not so much about having skill nor experience, flapping your feet, and rowing your arms. It's more about inspiring the confidence in those who are afraid to take risks and jump into an unknown abyss. Leadership is about inspiring faith in one another, social trust, and a strength that exists from within; since we humans evolved to survive.

Humanity is much more durable and resilient than our politicians like to portray. Humans can adapt and evolve fast. The ancient biological record is littered with moments of intense cultural and genetic bifurcation and evolution. Outer changes in the external environment tandemly induce inner modifications in how we reflect upon life and habitually orient to the repetitive tasks of everyday existence.

The external world conditions the reproduction of distinct, mutually sociable cognitive orientations that provide structure to shared intentionality, and the stabilized reproduction of an inner world that has an order, structure, and semantically co-ordinated with our community.

Habit systems emerge out of necessity. With the abrupt alteration of necessities in the Covid-19 world, the improvisational habit systems that make us unique but also much the same, are in the process of maturation. New social values, moral precepts, ethical praxis, political theology, and spiritual understanding are emerging across the world. Societies are changing. People are thinking. If Americans are lead by thoughtful global planning and political critique, expert intelligence, and broad cooperation, in this new world of Covid-19 the habit systems that emerge will profoundly affect the trajectory of human evolution in North America and western Europe, probably, for decades, if not for the next century. How we lead at this moment will determine whether we devolve to the sociology of survival, brute force conditioning, or a sociology of burden-sharing, shared intentionality, and community planning.

To inspire confidence among the polity, to intellectuality and debate among soldiers, to teach young men how to address existential questions without erupting in alarm; to teach young women that education matters that technology is where women should aim and innovate, that to be a good wife, a good sister, and a good mother is the highest beauty of any kind, that leadership comes from below, that leadership begins in the day-to-day, that the motivation to change the world is nothing more than the capacity to think and discern rightly.

As you enter the field of global planning, I cannot imagine the weight of responsibility and duty you probably feel. I believe that you have and probably will encounter situations where what's right is not readily identifiable. That comes with the territory, I guess, being in the political practice. There will be people who will want to make you fear, make you feel small, and put you down just because they want to 'win' at all cost, missing the point of it all. It's a stupid game at the end of the day. We are fallible. We all make mistakes. And that is what gives us grace. If we cannot fumble or fail, then we cannot learn. If we are not learning, we are not thinking. To not think is the greatest crime of politics, and endangers the polity to fall into an abyss without a lifeguard to keep the kids afloat. Think. Thinking is your job. It is all that matters. If you are thinking, then you are protecting. If you are thinking and not falling victim to flattery or derision, then you are serving. If you are making others think, then the oath is dutiable observed and honored, for the right -- the constant battle for light and flight.

Warm Regards,
Alex E. Towery

Email to a Senatorial Campaign.

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